#### §611.1216

under this section on or before the date of first use.

- (d) We will require you to correct communications that we deem are misleading or inaccurate.
- (e) In addition to the filings we require under paragraph (c) of this section, we may require you to file timely any written communications you have knowledge of that are made by any other participants or their agents in connection with or related to the proposed termination or to any transaction related to the proposed termination.
- (f) An immaterial or unintentional failure to file or a delay in filing a written communication described in this section will not result in a violation of this section, as long as:
- (1) A good faith and reasonable effort was made to comply with the filing requirement; and
- (2) The written communication is filed as soon as practicable after discovery of the failure to file.
- (g) Communications that exist in electronic form must be filed electronically with the FCA as we direct. For communications that do not exist in electronic form, you must timely notify us by electronic mail and send us a copy by regular mail.
- (h) You do not need to file a written communication that does not contain new or different information from that which you have previously publicly disclosed and filed under this section.

# §611.1216 Public availability of documents related to the termination.

- (a) We may post on our Web site, or require you to post on your Web site:
- (1) Results of any special assessments, analyses, studies, and rulings required under §611.1211;
- (2) Documents you submit to us or file with us under §611.1215; and
- (3) Documents you submit to us under section 7.11 of the Act that are related directly or indirectly to the proposed termination, including but not limited to contracts entered into in connection with or relating to the proposed termination and any related transactions.
- (b) We will not post confidential information on our Web site and will not require you to post it on your Web site.

(c) You may request that we treat specific information as confidential under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 (see 12 CFR part, 602 subpart B). You should draft your request for confidential treatment narrowly to extend only to those portions of a document you consider to be confidential. If you request confidential treatment for information that we do not consider to be confidential, we may post that information on our Web site after providing notice to you. On our own initiative, we may determine that certain information should be treated as confidential and, if so, we will not make that information public.

## § 611.1217 Plain language requirements.

- (a) Plain language presentation. All communications to equity holders required under §§ 611.1210, 611.1223, 611.1240, and 611.1280 must be clear, concise, and understandable. You must:
- (1) Use short, explanatory sentences, bullet lists or charts where helpful, and descriptive headings and subheadings;
- (2) Minimize the use of glossaries or defined terms;
- (3) Write in the active voice when possible; and
- (4) Avoid legal and highly technical business terminology.
- (b) Balanced statements. Communications to equity holders that describe or enumerate anticipated benefits of the proposed termination should also describe or enumerate the potential disadvantages to the same degree of detail.

### §611.1218 Role of directors.

- (a) Statements by directors. Directors may not be prohibited by confidentiality agreements or otherwise from publicly or privately commenting orally or in writing on the termination proposal and related matters.
- (b) Directors' right to obtain independent advice. One or more directors of a terminating institution or an institution that is considering terminating have the right to obtain independent legal and financial advice regarding the proposed termination and related transactions. The institution must pay for such advice and related expenses as

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are reasonable in light of the circumstances. A request by a director or directors for the institution to pay such expenses cannot be denied unless the board of directors, by at least a two-thirds vote of the full board (the total number of current directors), denies the request. The institution must act on any request in a timely manner. For any denial of payment, the board must provide notice to the FCA within 1 business day of the denial, fully document the reasons for such a denial, and ensure that the institution discloses the nature of the request and the reasons for any denial to the terminating institution's equity holders in the plan of termination.

#### §611.1219 Prohibited acts.

- (a) Statements about termination. Neither the institution nor any director, officer, employee, or agent may make any untrue or misleading statement of a material fact, or fail to disclose any material fact, to the FCA or a current or prospective equity holder about the proposed termination and any related transactions.
- (b) Representations regarding FCA approval. Neither the institution nor any director, officer, employee, or agent may make an oral or written representation to anyone that our approval of the plan of termination or the termination is, directly or indirectly, either a recommendation on the merits of the proposal or an assurance that the information you give to your equity holders is adequate or accurate.

#### §611.1220 Termination resolution.

No more than 1 week before you submit your plan of termination to us, your board of directors must adopt a termination resolution stating its support for terminating your status as a System institution and authorizing:

- (a) Submission to us of a plan of termination and other required submissions that comply with §611.1223; and
- (b) Submission of the plan of termination to the voting stockholders if we approve the plan of termination under §611.1230 or, if we take no action, after the end of our approval period.

#### §611.1221 Submission to FCA of plan of termination and disclosure information; other required submissions.

- (a) Filing. Send us an original and five copies of the plan of termination, including the disclosure information, and other required submissions. You may not file the plan of termination until at least 30 days after you mail the equity holder notice under §611.1210(b). If you send us the plan of termination in electronic form, you must send us at least one hard copy with original signatures.
- (b) *Plan contents*. The plan of termination must include your equity holder disclosure information that complies with §611.1223.
- (c) *Other submissions*. You must also submit the following:
- (1) A statement of how you will transfer assets to, and have your liabilities assumed by, the successor institution:
- (2) A copy of the charter application for the successor institution, with any exhibits or other supporting information: and
- (3) A statement, if applicable, whether the successor institution will continue to borrow from a Farm Credit bank and how such a relationship will affect your provision for payment of debts. You must also provide evidence of any agreement and plan for satisfaction of outstanding debts.

## §611.1223 Plan of termination—contents.

(a) *Disclaimer*. Place the following statement in boldface type in the material to be sent to equity holders, either on the notice of meeting or the first page of the plan of termination:

The Farm Credit Administration has not determined if this information is accurate or complete. You should not rely on any statement to the contrary.

- (b) *Summary*. The first part of the plan of termination must be a summary that concisely explains:
- (1) Which stockholders have a right to vote on the termination and related transactions:
- (2) The material changes the termination will cause to the rights of borrowers and other equity holders;
- (3) The effect of those changes;